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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

Changes in the National Turkey Improvement Plan Recommended By  
Official Delegates at the 1952 National Plans Conference  
and Approved by the Bureau of Animal Industry

(All references are to Misc. Publication No. 555, Revised June 1950)

GENERAL REGULATIONS  
Section 1. Definitions

- (1) Page 3, Paragraph 15. Change to read:

Flock:- The word "flock" as applied to the breeding provisions shall mean all turkeys of one variety on the same premises except that crossmated birds as provided in Paragraph 16 shall be construed as one flock.

The word "flock" as applied to the pullorum provisions shall mean all of the turkeys on one farm except that at the discretion of the official State agency turkeys in a group which are segregated from those in another group and have been so segregated for a period of at least 21 days may be considered as a separate flock.

Effective date: Immediately

Section 3. Terminology and Advertising

- (2) Page 6, Regulation 6. Add:

A breeder shall not advertise as U.S.R.O.P. or U.S.R.O.M. until his candidates have met the complete requirements of the stage for the current or preceding season.

Effective date: 1953 breeding season

BREEDING STAGES  
General Provisions

- (3) Page 6, Paragraph 3. Add:

Exception to this rule will not permit Standard and Broad Breasted Bronze varieties to be kept on the same premises or hatched in the same hatchery.

Effective date: Immediately



(4) Page 7, Paragraph 6, Table 1 Change to read:

Suggested minimum body weights for large- and medium-sized varieties and minimum and maximum body weights for small type turkeys as an aid in the selecting of breeding stock at various ages

Sex & age in weeks	Minimum weights			Maximum weights			
	Broad Breasted Bronze and Nebraskan	Standard-bred Bronze	Standard varieties other than Bronze and Belts. White	Jersey Buff	Belts. Small White	Belts. Small White	Jersey Buff
Toms	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
12	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
14	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9
16	11	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	10	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
18	13	11	10	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
20	15	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	14
22	17	14	13	12	11	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
24	19	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
26	21	17	16	15	14	18	19
28	23	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	21
30	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	16	21	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
32	26	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	22	23 $\frac{1}{2}$
34	27	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	19	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	23	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
36	28	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	25
38	28	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	24	25 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hens							
12	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
14	7	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
16	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	5	5	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
18	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9
20	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	9	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
22	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	10
24	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11
26	13	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	8	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
28	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12
30	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	13
32	15	12	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
34	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	10	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	14
36	16	13	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
38	16	13	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$

Effective date: Immediately

- (5) Page 7, Paragraph 7. Change to read:

All eggs used in any breeding stage of the turkey plan shall be reasonably uniform in size and shape, sound in shell and shall weigh at least  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ounces each, except that for the Beltsville Small White and other small varieties, the minimum shall be  $2\frac{1}{3}$  ounces each or 28 ounces to the dozen during the months of October through May, and  $2\frac{1}{6}$  ounces each or 26 ounces to the dozen during the months June through September. Non-pedigreed hatching eggs shall be trayed and the poults boxed with a view to uniformity of size.

Effective date: Immediately

#### U. S. Approved Breeding Stage

- (6) Page 8, Paragraph 3. Last two sentences, change to read:

The official selection of birds for U. S. Approved flocks may not be done before the birds are four months of age and shall be completed at least 10 days before any eggs are saved for hatching purposes, except that this 10-day interval shall not be required if all the toms found in the breeding flock are approved.

Effective date: Immediately

#### U. S. Record of Performance Breeding Stage

- (7) Page 11, Paragraph 2. Following first sentence, add:

After the first two years he shall maintain at least 5 candidate matings.

Effective date: 1953 breeding season

- (8) Page 14. Add a new paragraph:

U.S.R.O.P. Mass Matings:- Hens which have qualified for U.S.R.O.P. and have a hatchability of 85% or more for the qualifying period, may be mass mated with U.S.R.O.P. males to produce toms to head a U. S. Certified mating. Such matings need not be trapnested, but eggs produced by such matings shall be kept segregated and properly identified at all times. Poults shall be properly marked at hatching time and records kept on hatchability and egg production. Toms to head this mass mating must be produced from hens with hatchability of 85% or more. Each poult from these mass matings shall be wing banded with a sealed wing band marked "mass mated".

Effective date: 1953 breeding season

- (9) Page 19, Paragraph 12. Change (a), (b), (c) and last paragraph to read:

- (a) U.S.R.O.M. toms mated to daughters of U.S.R.O.M. matings
- (b) Sons of U.S.R.O.M. matings mated to U.S.R.O.M. hens
- (c) Sons of U.S.R.O.M. matings mated to daughters of U.S.R.O.M. matings



(9) Continued:

Poults from such matings shall be wing-banded at hatching time with sealed and numbered wing bands marked "U. S. Cert." The individually identified young toms from such matings may be used to head U. S. Certified flocks after having been approved by the State inspector and banded with official sealed and numbered wing or leg bands marked "U. S. Cert."

Effective date: 1953 breeding season

Performance Test

- (10) Add as an elective section of the National Turkey Improvement Plan, a performance testing program whereby a breeder could accumulate records on one or more of the factors of egg production, hatchability, and viability of progeny; his records to be of such a nature and kept in such a fashion as to be certifiable by the R.O.P. supervisor and publishable by the Bureau of Animal Industry. The basic provisions governing this test are as follows:

- (1) Any N.T.I.P. participant may enter the test.
- (2) All birds entered shall be trapnested and all birds trapnested on the premises shall be considered as entered.
- (3) All records kept on egg production, hatchability and viability of progeny for the entry shall be subject to inspection, but only those records designated by the breeder prior to the breeding season to be included in the published summary.
- (4) The records included in the summary shall be based on the total number of birds entered.
- (5) Egg production shall be expressed in percent production and shall cover a period of at least 8 weeks.
- (6) Hatchability shall be expressed as the percent of poults hatched from the total number of eggs set. At least 1,000 eggs must be set.
- (7) Viability of progeny shall be expressed as the percentage of poults started that live for eight or more weeks, and shall be based on at least 500 poults.
- (8) The provisions of paragraphs 23 and 24, Page 15, shall apply to the inspection of entries in the performance testing program.

Effective date: 1953 breeding season

Pullorum Control and Eradication Classes  
General Provisions

- (11) Page 20, Paragraph 2. Delete the sentence:

Beginning July 1, 1951, the rapid, whole-blood test is restricted to use in testing flocks for the U. S. Pullorum-Controlled class.

Effective date: July 1, 1952

(12) Page 20, Paragraph 4. Change first sentence to read:

All tests for and diagnoses of pullorum, typhoid, or paratyphoid in flocks of any age, in a pullorum class or candidates for a pullorum class must be reported to the official State agency within 10 days following the completion of such tests or diagnoses.

Effective date: Immediately

(13) Page 21, Paragraph 8. Change to read:

All domesticated fowl such as chickens, pheasants, guineas, pea fowls, bantams, etc., excepting waterfowl, shall either be properly tested to meet the same pullorum tolerance as the breeding flock of turkeys, or be segregated from the breeding flock of turkeys at all stages of development and during all seasons of the year.

Effective date: Immediately

(14) Page 21, Paragraph 13. Change to read:

In the event that eggs other than turkey or chicken eggs, excepting the eggs of waterfowl, are to be incubated or hatched by a hatchery, such eggs shall have been produced by flocks that were properly tested to meet at least the minimum pullorum tolerance of the hatchery.

Effective date: Immediately

#### U. S. Pullorum-Controlled Class

(15) Page 22, Paragraph 2 (a). Add the following:

Beginning July 1, 1954, in order to qualify as U. S. Pullorum-Controlled, the flock shall contain fewer than 1 percent reactors, and effective June 30, 1956, the U. S. Pullorum-Controlled class shall be deleted from the plan.

Effective date: Immediately

(16) Page 22, Paragraph 2 (d). Delete this paragraph which reads:

Individual birds introduced into U. S. Pullorum-Controlled flocks shall have passed, within 6 months, a negative official test for pullorum disease.

Effective date: July 1, 1952

#### U. S. Pullorum-Clean Class

(17) Page 25, Paragraph 3. Delete this paragraph which reads:

Flocks of this classification shall be designated as having been U. S. Pullorum-Clean for 1, 2, 3, etc. years.

Effective date: July 1, 1952

## Procedure for Making Changes in the Plan

(18) Page 31, Item 3 (b), 8th Paragraph. Change to read:

The committee members will be elected by the NPIP and NTIP official delegates of the respective regions. Each region shall also elect one alternate member. There shall be at least two nominees for each position and the voting shall be by secret ballot.

Three members shall be elected at each National Plans Conference. At the first election, members will be elected for four year terms for the North Atlantic, East North Central and Western regions; whereas members will be elected for two year terms for the South Atlantic, West North Central and South Central regions. Thereafter each member of the committee shall serve for a period of four years and may not succeed himself.

Effective date: Opening session of the next National Plans Conference

(19) Page 32, Item 3 (b). Add:

The duties of the General Conference Committee are as follows:

- (1) Determine whether new proposals (i.e., proposals that have not been published and submitted to the States) may be considered. New proposals will only be considered with the unanimous consent of the committee.
- (2) During the interim between conferences, the committee shall represent the cooperating States in:
  - (a) Reviewing and giving recommendations regarding the Bureau's report of changes and editing of the plans to include the changes.
  - (b) Serving in an advisory capacity with respect to administrative procedures and interpretations of the provisions of the plans.
  - (c) Recommending administrative changes as may be necessitated by unforeseen conditions when postponement until the next conference would seriously impair the operation of the program. Such changes shall not affect the basic provisions of the breeding stages or the pullorum control and eradication classes and shall remain in effect only until confirmed or rejected by the next National Plans Conference or until rescinded by the Committee.
  - (d) Assisting the Bureau of Animal Industry in formulating plans for the next conference.

Effective date: Immediately





